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# Doctor wins Athena award

## Pediatrics boss helped net gift from Golisano.

By Mary Chao  
Staff Writer

(January 15, 2004) —

Dr. Elizabeth McAnarney says she considers working with children to be a privilege.

So when the chairwoman of pediatrics for the University of Rochester Medical Center mentors medical residents specializing in caring for children, she tells them, "You make me happy because I know the future of our children is secure."

Thanking those in the medical profession and community leaders,

McAnarney graciously accepted the 2004 Athena Award at the Riverside Convention Center before a crowd of more than 1,000 people.

"Everyone who was nominated deserved to win the award," she said of the 20 other nominees.

The award, given by the Women's Council of the Rochester Business Alliance, recognizes the accomplishments of Rochester-area businesswomen, as well as their community contributions.

McAnarney spent decades as a physician, teacher and mentor before becoming an administrator in 1993. She started her career at UR in 1968 as a fellow in behavioral pediatrics.



MAX SCHULTE STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

*Dr. Elizabeth McAnarney, right, accepts the 2004 Athena Award Wednesday from Lydia Boddie-Rice, president of the Women's Council of the Rochester Business Alliance on Wednesday. McAnarney, chairwoman of pediatrics for the University of Rochester Medical Center, was honored to her contributions to the community as well as her accomplishments. [Day in Photos]*



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She now manages a departmental budget that has grown from \$25 million to \$64 million over the past decade.

During her tenure as chairwoman, McAnarney has refocused the pediatric department's emphasis on community-based programs and outlined a five-year \$30 million capital campaign.

The efforts led to a \$14 million gift by B. Thomas Golisano in 2002, the largest ever for UR from a living donor. One result of the gift was that the children's floors at Strong Memorial Hospital were refashioned into the Golisano Children's Hospital.

Golisano, chairman, president and chief executive of Paychex, was at McAnarney's table at the luncheon Wednesday and said her efforts figured into his decision to donate to the medical center.

"She's the ultimate professional," Golisano said. "She has a warmth about her that is very unique."

McAnarney received a standing ovation.

Debra L. Lee, president and chief operating officer at Black Entertainment Television, encouraged women to knock down doors to showcase their talents during her keynote speech.

"It's up to you to make people pay attention," Lee told the crowd. "It's up to you to turn vision into reality by acting on it."

Challenging the status quo, making a commitment to give back through service and taking risks are all key to being a successful leader, she said.

Lee also spoke of her role at BET. As second-in-command, she was put in charge of projects such as taking the company public and then taking it private again. When she thought the task was overwhelming, BET CEO Bob Johnson would just say, "It's simple."

"Bob has the vision, and I make it happen," Lee said.

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#### **Other nominees**

Here are the Athena Award nominees:

Dr. Patricia A. Bomba, corporate medical director, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield and MedAmerica.

Patricia Chiverton, dean of UR School of Nursing.

Diane C. Creel, CEO and president, AnAerobics Inc.

Karen L. Davis, vice president, ESL Federal Credit Union.

Mary Hadley, strategic product group manager, Eastman Kodak Co.

Susan Schultz Laluk, partner, Boylan Brown Code Vigdor & Wilson.

Barbara Melnyk, managing editor, Genesee Valley Parent and Rochester Woman magazines.

Rosemary Catalano Mitchell, executive director, Women's Foundation of Genesee Valley.

Carolyn Nussbaum, partner, Nixon Peabody.

Marie Y. Philippe, corporate director of diversity, Excellus BlueCross BlueShield.

Tish Robinson, general manager, WRWB-TV.

Susan Salvador, vice president/student services, Monroe Community College.

Gladys Santiago, senior vice president, Ibero-American Action League.

Mary Anne Shew, owner, Shew Technology Associates.

Naomi Silver, chairwoman, Rochester Community Baseball Inc.

Laurel A. Spring, general manager of inkjet media , Inkjet Media and Vice President, Digital & Applied Imaging, Kodak.

Ingrid A. Stanlis, partner, KPMG.

Gaynelle D. Wethers, director of multicultural affairs, Nazareth College.

Joyce M. Wichie, director of supplier diversity, Kodak.

Linda Yaniszewski, CEO/President, ExecuScribe Inc.



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